

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/024,757	12/20/2001	Tony Piotrowski	US010628	3946
24737 759	90 12/02/2005		EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTI	ELLECTUAL PROPEI	ALAUBAIDI, HAYTHIM J		
P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2168	

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary		Application No.	Applicant(s)			
		10/024,757	PIOTROWSKI, TONY			
		Examiner	Art Unit			
		Haythim J. Alaubaidi	2168			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
THE - External after - If the - If NC - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. nsions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.1: SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. e period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period vere to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing ed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be to within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDON	imely filed ays will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. ED (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status						
1)⊠	1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>18 August 2005</u> .					
.2a)⊠	This action is FINAL . 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Dispositi	ion of Claims					
4)⊠ 5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□	4) Claim(s) 1-7,9-14,17 and 20-26 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-7,9-14,17 and 20-26 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.					
Applicati	ion Papers					
10)⊠	The specification is objected to by the Examine The drawing(s) filed on <u>18 August 2005</u> is/are: Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction of the oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	a) \boxtimes accepted or b) \square objected drawing(s) be held in abeyance. So ion is required if the drawing(s) is o	ee 37 CFR 1.85(a). bjected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
Attachmen	• •	_				
2) Notice (3) Inform	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) r No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summar Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal 6) Other:				

Application/Control Number: 10/024,757 Page 2

Art Unit: 2168

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is a Final Office Action in response to the amendment of August 18, 2005.

- 2. The Examiner acknowledges the cancellation of Claims 8, 15, 16, 18 and 19.
- 3. The Examiner acknowledges the newly added Claims 20-26.
- 4. Claims 1-7, 9-14, 17 and 20-26 stands present to be examined following the amendment of August 18, 2005.
- 5. The Examiner acknowledges the replacement sheet drawings of Figure No. 3.
- 6. Claims 1, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 13-14, 17 and 20-26, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a).
- 7. Claims 2-3, 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- 9. Claims 1, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 13-14, 17 and 20-26, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Stephan H. Maes (European Patent Application EP 1 143 679 and Maes hereinafter).

Regarding Claims 1, 7, 9-11, 17 and 24-25, Maes discloses:

inputting by a user of audio data (Figure No. 1, Element No. 16 and 24 and corresponding text);

forming from the inputted data a voice data packet related to a desired item or service; (Figure 1, Elements No. 15, 16, 24, 21, 22 and 23 and corresponding text; see also Col 5, Paragraph [0019]);

forming a search request using information from the voice data packet, (Figure No. 3a, Element No. 105 and corresponding text; see also Col 9, Paragraph [0030]; see also Col 2, Paragraphs [0006] and [0007]);

the search request including audio information; (Figure No. 1, Element No 15 and 16 and corresponding text; see also Col 7, Paragraph [0024]);

transmitting from a terminal of a user (Figure No. 1, Element No. 16 and corresponding text) the formed search request to a search engine (Figure No. 1, Element No's. 24 and 20-23 and corresponding text);

receiving the transmitted search request (Figure No. 1, Element No. 17 and corresponding text)

searching based on the search request one or more databases for the desired item or service; (Figure No 1, Elements No. 25 and 26 and corresponding text).

Regarding Claim 4, Maes discloses searching step includes searching one or more databases over the Internet (Figure No. 1 and corresponding text; see also Col 6, Paragraph [0023]).

Art Unit: 2168

Regarding Claim 6, Maes discloses verifying the user's identity using a voice authentication process (Col 21-22, Paragraph [0066]).

Regarding Claim 13, Maes discloses audio-to-text unit, wherein at least a portion of the search request includes electronic text data (Col 6-7, Paragraphs [0023] and [0024]).

Regarding Claim 14, Maes discloses a result indication formatter that formats the search results in a predetermined order (Col 11, Lines 4-12).

Regarding Claims 20, 21 and 23, Maes discloses a communication channel through an online connection (please see Figure No. 1 and the corresponding text).

Regarding Claim 22, Maes discloses a search engine (please see Figure No. 1, Element No. 23 and the corresponding text).

Regarding Claim 22, Maes discloses a web-enabled television (please see Figure No. 1, Element No's. 12-15 and the corresponding text as interactive communication devices).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2168

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 2-3, 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stephan H. Maes (European Patent Application EP 1 143 679 and Maes hereinafter) in view of Ronals A. Katz (U.S. Patent No. 6,055,513 and Katz hereinafter).

Regarding Claim 2 Maes's reference discloses all of the claimed subject matter set forth above, including providing a result of the search to the user (Maes, Col 21, Lines 27-31, i.e. search result; see also Figure 3a, Element 107 and corresponding text); except the reference does not explicitly indicate wherein, the information includes one or more of the following types of information: consumer information, merchandize/service description, merchandize/service source, financial information and shipping information. However Katz discloses merchandize/service description (Katz, Abstract, i.e. determining at least one good, service or item of information; see also Col 2, Lines 3-7; see also Col 24, Lines 4-11). Given the intended broad application of the Maes system, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Maes with the teachings of Katz to include an item description to be purchased or to identify the user purchasing the items or goods, one reason would be to complete the purchasing transaction, as identifying the items and/or good would result in completing the purchasing transaction

Art Unit: 2168

if the voice or audio search request was in regard to purchasing an item or good or a service.

Regarding Claim 3 Katz discloses completing a purchase transaction in an offline process; an "offline process" as defined by the Specification of the current Application (Paragraph [0017]) is processing the purchase order by the merchant once a request was received "not in real time" (Col 1, Lines 20-41; see also Col 2, Lines 34-54)¹

Regarding Claim 5, Maes's reference discloses all of the claimed subject matter set forth above, except it does not explicitly indicate wherein the purchase transaction is a credit or debit card transaction. However Katz discloses wherein the purchase transaction is a credit or debit card transaction (Col 9, Lines 22-64). Given the intended broad application of the Maes system, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Maes with the teachings of Katz to include credit or debit transactions, one of many reasons would be to increase the system flexibility and maximizing the consumer convenience by allowing the consumer to purchase a good or service using a credit or debit over the Internet instead of mailing cash or other type of checks to the provider of the good or services.

Regarding Claim 12, Maes discloses verifying the user's identity using a voice authentication process (Col 21-22, Paragraph [0066]).

Application/Control Number: 10/024,757 Page 7

Art Unit: 2168

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed in the amendment of August 18, 205 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive;

- a. Applicant's arguments in regard to the newly added limitations are moot in view of the Examiner's rejection; please see the rejections to the newly added limitations above.
- 13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

¹ Please note that the Applicant's admitted prior art would also read on the limitations of these claims (see

Points of Contact

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haythim J. Alaubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin, can be reached at (571) 272-446.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or Faxed at our central fax number (571) 273-8300.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window of the Randolph Building at 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100

Art Unit 2168

HOSAIN ALAM SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER